

Abstract

Investigating the effect of mother's awareness of caries prevention methods on dmft index in children referring to ardabil medical centers in 2023

Introduction: dental caries is a chronic disease that affects most of people especially children. Parents, especially mothers playing important role in children's oral health , and the knowledge of them can lead to healthy behaviors in their children. Therefore, the current study was carried out with the aim of investigating the effect of mother's knowledge of caries prevention methods on dmft index in children.

Materials and methods: In this descriptive-cross-sectional study, 144 eligible children/parents which referred to medical centers in Ardabil city were examined. mother's knowledge of children's caries prevention methods questionnaires were used to measurement of mother's knowledge, and its validity and reliability were verified before use. After collecting the questionnaire, data analysis was done in two parts, descriptive statistics (mean, deviation, etc.) and analytical statistics using Kruskal-Wallis test, Independent Samples T Test, Yeoman-Whitney, Pearson's correlation coefficient with SPSS version 20. A significance level of less than 0.05 was considered.

Results: The results showed that there is no significant difference in the dmft of girls (59.5 ± 5.05) and boys (59.5 ± 5.23). Increasing mother's education increase the level of children caries prevention knowledge significantly. As the child's age increased, mother's knowledge of children's caries prevention methods increased significantly. But there is no significant relationship between mother's age and caries prevention methods knowledge. There isn't significant relationship between dmft and mother's caries prevention methods knowledge, and this relationship was not significant based on mother's age and education.

Conclusion: The results showed that mother's knowledge of prevention methods hadn't significant effect on dmft index in children referred to medical centers of Ardabil city.

Keywords: Awareness, caries prevention methods, dmft